Janis Ian is having an encore appearance.

By Stanley Hartman

Saturday evening a very interesting young singer gave a concert in Jordan Hall. The girl's name is Janis Ian, certainly an excellent and interesting musician. In her solo performance she displayed her musical talent as she sang and accompanied herself on both guitar and piano while doing songs she had both written and arranged. Her feeling for writing and arranging is overwhelming as you listen to her chord changes and tempo changes, and the precision in which they are carried out. Released and relaxed.

You realize that Janis Ian has complete control of her voice, her instrument, and also the audience as she progresses through her varied program. From her "generation gap" songs such as "Skeeter's Child" to her love songs, songs about the recording industry itself, and even straight blues numbers, she remains relaxed and professional in her presentation. Throughout the evening she jokes with the audience and they joked with her, loving every minute of it and calling for three encores. The reception was gratifying but did differ from those she enjoyed in New York. As she remarked, "I like Boston. I like the people...but they're kind of weird."

Optimistic

Janis Ian is a pensive, introspective and very mature sixteen-year-old, very interested about the world she lives in. Concerning her second album, "It was good but so had production difficulties with it, but the third album will make it up for it." This is due mainly to the fact that she is now backed by a group of close friends, the New York Tactical Force. On the contemporary music scene she likes Tim Buckley, Richie Havens, Bob Dylan—his new record especially. As for the leader of the young generation, "I'm no leader...everybody's their own leader." And in the same vein, on taking drugs, it's a personal thing, I don't find it or any of my friends is it talks to them about it.

Mused here.

Janis is a very talented young musician who through a big break that has given a chance to show her talents. She's not seriously involved in any movements per se "they take too much time"

but, rather, she's busy writing music because "music's my thing," and the way she writes it, it's fortunate for us that she realizes it.

Next time you get a chance to see or hear Janis Ian sing, go to the songs, enjoy the melodies, but most importantly listen to the words and think about them. It makes you wonder what you were doing with your life when you were 17 minus two months and three days.

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**Alexis Weissenberg due to emerge soon as new Chopin piano maestro**


By Ray Keggs

Alexis Weissenberg is one of those "unknown" artists who will not remain unknown very long. The virtuosity displayed by this 38-year-old native of Sofia, Bulgaria, as one of the few Chopin interpreters of our time. From his performances of the Rachmaninoff Concerto No. 2 with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, it is apparent that he still has a wide repertoire. A 1965 graduate of the Julihn School of Music (at 17), he won the Liedowsk Award the following year and made his debut at Carnegie Hall with George Szell and the New York Philharmonic. The basic feeling comes listening to Weissenberg's Chopin is the deep intensity of his playing. The pianist's tone is so well controlled the listener in the dramatic, non-loud sense of the word. The Seiber gives Weissenberg a chance to display his superbly clear touch in the faster passages. He has, at least, retained the amount of "breath" that only the finest concert pianists possess. An in-quiet and intimate concert, he showed true stage presence that helped make the audience appear. If you are interested in the performer, see him at Jordan Hall at 8:30 Saturday.

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